

Deer Creek Reservoir

Safe for Runoff

Wave 76 Apr 1984

The expected heavy runoff from snowmelt this spring poses no threat whatsoever to the long-term stability or the operation of Deer Creek Dam and Reservoir, Bureau of Reclamation officials in Provo said today.

"There has been general concern over the threat of flooding," Kirt Carpenter, Manager of Reclamation's Utah Projects Office, noted, "and that has led some persons to wonder what affect there might be on the facilities at Deer Creek. The answer is, none."

The dam and reservoir, located in Wasatch County about 16 miles northeast of Provo, was completed by Reclamation in 1941. It was

constructed in response to the drought of 1931-35 when water stored in Utah Lake fell from 850,000 to 20,000 acre-feet, more than 12 feet below compromise level. Provo and the other communities in Utah County, along with Salt Lake City, joined with irrigation interests to sponsor the project. It has provided municipal and industrial and irrigation water and recreation benefits ever since.

"The operation of Deer Creek is monitored 24 hours a day, and the facilities are regularly inspected," Carpenter said. "It has been consistently rated a safe dam. There are no known safety problems."

Deer Creek is designed to hold a maximum of 152,700 acre-feet of water. Its outlet works, which saw a power generating facility added in 1958, allows the operator to release up to 1,500 cubic feet of water per second from the reservoir. A maximum of 12,000 cubic feet per second can also be bypassed through the spillway.

It is when releases exceed 1,500 cubic feet per second that there is a risk of causing erosion and other flood-related damage below the reservoir. However, there may not be high potential for flooding on Provo River this year according to the most recent available data.

Although runoff levels are higher due to the winter saturated ground, snowpack levels on those drainages which feed into Deer Creek are only slightly higher than average for this time of year and are among the lowest in Utah.

In addition, Hugh McKellar, Superintendent of the Provo River Water Users Association, which operates Deer Creek, indicates that capacity will be maintained in the reservoir in order to reduce peak flows to manageable levels in order to protect project facilities downstream. This will have the effect of minimizing potential flooding all along the river.

Sand Bags Available

Heber City residents with legitimate concerns regarding flooding, may contact Tommy Lindsay at 654-3275 to check on the availability of sand bags for personal use.

2X

s, impacted mining companies
d landholders, and certain state
d federal agencies. Questions
nter on provisions of the
payment contract, water rights,
fety of various dam sites, the
ed for additional electrical

Utah County. Wednesday, May 9,
1984, 7:30 p.m., Wasatch Middle
School Auditorium, 175 East 800
South, Heber City, Wasatch
County. Thursday, May 10, 1984,
7:30 p.m., Duchesne High School
Auditorium, Duchesne, Duchesne

is to analyze work that has already
been completed on the Bonneville
Unit of the CUP and to re-examine
uncompleted elements of the
project."

Comments may be submitted in
persoon or in writing at the public
meetings, or written comments
may be submitted to the Depart-
ment of Natural Resources, 1636
West North Temple, Salt Lake
City, Utah 84116. Public
meetings will also be scheduled
September 17-21 to solicit public
review and comments on a draft
report before the department
submits a final report to the
Governor. The public will be
notified of times and locations of
these later meetings.

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Boosters to Hold Meeting

The Wasatch High School
Boosters will hold their monthly
meeting May 2, 1984 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Wasatch High School.

All parents of up and coming
Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors
and Seniors we need your support.

We can only help the students at
Wasatch High if you become
active and make this Boosters
Club go. Come out and get
acquainted and find out what the
club is all about.

The new officers for 1984-85 will
be announced.

We wish to express our
appreciation to all the 1983-84
officers. They worked hard and
did a super job.